# CHAPTER I.

## EXTENSION AND CONSTITUTION OF STATE FORESTS.

### (i).—ALTERATION OF AREA,

AND

### (ii).—FOREST SETTLEMENTS.

The following table shews the changes that have taken place during the past year in the area of the State forests of the Southern Circle :—

| Names of Districts. | Area on 1st July 1896. | | Added during the year. | | Excluded or transferred to other heads. | | Area on 30th June 1897. | | Total Forest Area. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Reserved. | Protected. | Reserved. | Protected. | Reserved. | Protected. | Reserved. | Protected. | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| | Sq. m. a. | Sq. m. a. | Sq. m. a. | Sq. m. a. | Sq. m. a. | Sq. m. a. | Sq. m. a. | Sq. m. a. | Sq. m. a. |
| Kánara ... ... | 1,264 346 | 2,227 561 | 665 596 | ... | 0 35 | 664 377 | 1,930 267 | 1,563 184 | 3,493 451 |
| Belgaum ... ... | 665 179 | 11 57 | 0 402 | ... | 0 91 | ... | 665 490 | 11 57 | 676 547 |
| Dhárwár ... ... | 364 544 | ..... | 1 508 | ... | 3 356 | ... | 363 56 | ..... | 363 56 |
| Bijápur ... ... | 155 56 | 89 409 | 116 200 | ... | 1 309 | 89 409 | 269 587 | ..... | 269 587 |
| Kolába ... ... | 439 15 | 5 582 | 10 81 | ... | 0 1 | 2 89 | 449 95 | 3 493 | 452 588 |
| Ratnágiri ... ... | 22 93 | ..... | 0 7 | ... | 0 4 | ... | 21 736 | ..... | 21 736 |
| Total ... | 2,910 593 | 2,334 329 | 794 514 | ... | 5 156 | 756 235 | 3,700 311 | 1,578 94 | 5,278 405 |

2. The territorial changes sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 10330, dated 17th December 1896, were given effect to from 1st January 1897, under which Kánara was divided into the Northern, Southern and Western Divisions, instead of the Northern, Central and Southern as formerly. The Northern and Southern Divisions, as at present constituted, comprise all the ghát ranges of Kánara, while the several coast ranges now form the Western Division. The redistribution of these ranges, as transferred from the old to the new three divisions, is as shown below :—

| *Old.* | | *New.* | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Kárwár ... ... | Northern Division, Kánara. | Haliyál ... ... | Northern Division, Kánara. |
| Haliyál ... ... | | Supa ... ... | |
| Supa ... ... | | | |
| Ankola ... ... | Central Division, Kánara. | Yellápur ... ... | Southern Division, Kánara. |
| Yellápur ... ... | | Mundgod ... ... | |
| Mundgod ... | | Sirsi ... ... | |
| | | Siddápur ... ... | |
| Kumpta ... ... | Southern Division, Kánara. | Kárwár ... ... | Western Division, Kánara. |
| Honávar ... .. | | Ankola ... ... | |
| Sirsi ... ... | | Kumpta ... ... | |
| Siddápur ... ... | | Honávar ... ... | |

3. The alteration in the reserved area of Kánara is owing to the transfer of 1 square mile 230 acres, from Dhárwár, and to 664 square miles 365 acres of Supa having been made 'Reserved.' One acre was also found in excess of the original figures owing to rectification of areas previously notified. The area in Supa was originally entered as "Protected," and is, therefore, deducted from the figures in column 7 of the above table, along with 12 acres which were found less than the original acreage according to corrections made in the previous notifications. Of the 35 acres shewn in column 6, 5 are on account of disafforestation, and 30 are due to errors in the original notifications, which were rectified during the year under report.

4. In Belgaum, 391 acres were added to the reserved area of Gokák, and 62 acres were disafforested from the Sampgaon forest reserves. The other changes in the division are due to errors in the notifications of past years.

5. The changes in Dhárwár are due to 1 square mile 508 acres newly added to "Reserved." Of the 3 square miles 356 acres shewn in column 6, 1 square mile 488 acres of Ron and 1 square mile 230 acres of Kalghatgi were transferred to Bijápur and Kánara, respectively, and 278 acres were disafforested in Navalgund.

6. In Bijápur, the "Protected" forests (89 square miles 409 acres) were converted into, and 23 square miles 588 acres were newly added to, "Reserved." Two square miles 503 acres were also found in excess of the original acreage, owing to corrections in survey papers. The area (1 square mile 309 acres) entered in column 6, was disafforested from the reserved forests of the division on final settlement.

7. In Kolába, 2 square miles 89 acres were converted from "Protected" into, and 7 square miles 632 acres were added to, "Reserved". One acre was disafforested from the "Reserved" area.

8. In Ratnágiri, 7 acres were added to, and 4 deducted from, the reserved area. The latter was owing to errors in past years' notifications rectified during the year under report.

9. Mr. Sheppard, who was by Government Resolution No. 8798, dated 7th November 1896, appointed Personal Assistant to the Collector of Bijápur, continued to hold charge of the Forest Settlement Office, Kánara, in addition to his own duties, and consequently, the field-work remaining to be done in the Southern Division, Kánara, was not taken in hand during the year.

10. Government orders on the Forest Settlement Report on the forests of the 73 villages of Honávar, referred to in paragraph 8 of last year's administration report, were not received until after the close of the year.

11. Settlement-proposals on the forests, of which the field-work was completed during the past year, are under preparation, except in regard to the 65 villages of Bhatkal, for which a report has been sent in.

12. The following area was notified under Section 4 of the Forest Act:—

| | A. | g. |
|---|---|---|
| Kánara ... ... ... | 352 | 17 |
| Belgaum ... ... ... | 1,092 | 5 |
| Dhárwár ... ... ... | 1,556 | 2 |
| Bijápur ... ... ... | 1,408 | 23 |
| Ratnágiri ... ... ... | 6 | 33 |
| | 4,416 | ... |

13. The expenditure incurred on account of settlement during the year under report, was as detailed below:—

*Not charged to Forests.*

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| Salaries and allowances of the Forest Settlement Officer, Kanára ... ... ... ... ... | 12,062 |

*Charged to Forests.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Salaries and allowances of the Establishment employed under the Forest Settlement Officer, Kánara ... | 3,947 |
| Contingencies ... ... ... ... | 1,791 |
| Salaries, &c., of the Establishment of the late Dhárwár-Belgaum Settlement Office ... ... ... | 123 |
| Compensation ... ... ... ... | 5,480 |
| Total ... | 23,403 |

14. The following statement in the form prescribed in paragraph 3 of Government Resolution No. 5068 of 29th June 1896, shows the settlement-work which actually remains to be done.

| Names of Divisions. | Stages of outstanding work. | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Occupied lands to be acquired | | | Land to be notified under Section 4. | Land to be settled under Section 7. | Land to be notified under Section 19. | Total. | Remarks. |
| | By exchange or compensation. | | Land to be notified under Land Acquisition Act. | | | | | |
| | Negotiations proceeding. | Negotiations completed. | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | Sq. m. | Sq. m. | Sq. m. | Sq. m. | Sq. m. | Sq. m. | Sq. m. | |
| Northern Division, Kánara. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ·9 | ... | ·9 | |
| Southern do. | ·09 | ·01 | ... | ·12 | 13·93 | 663·396 | 677·546 | |
| Western do. | ... | ·003 | ... | ·1 | 11·704 | 335·846 | 347·653 | |
| Belgaum ... ... ... | ·396 | ·003 | ... | ·315 | 1·706 | 6·404 | 8·824 | |
| Dhárwár ... .. ... | ... | ·027 | ... | ·204 | 3·425 | 3·172 | 6·828 | |
| Bijápur ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ·056 | ... | ·056 | |
| Kolába ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11·551 | 11·551 | |
| Ratnágiri ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ·019 | ... | ·019 | |
| Total ... | 0·486 | 0·043 | .. | 0·739 | 31·740 | 1,020·369 | 1,053·377 | |

15. Of the area shown in column 7, against the three divisions of Kánara, settlement-proposals on 543 square miles have been sanctioned by Government and notifications for part of the area have also been published since the close of the year under report. The only forests for which reports have to be sent to Government, are those of the Bhatkal Petha and the Siddápur Táluka, and report for the former has just been received from the Forest Settlement Officer and is under review in this office. In Belgaum and Dhárwár, the areas shown are distributed over several tálukas and need no further explanation than that final notifications will, it is hoped, be shortly sent in by the respective ex-officio-Forest-Settlement-Officers. The Collector's report on the Mádrái villages in Kolábá has not yet been received.

16. Appendix 47 shows that the settlement of 4,160 square miles of forests was completed by the end of 1896-97, and that 976 square miles were undergoing settlement at the commencement of 1897-98; and, if the total 5,136 is deducted from the whole forest area of the Circle (5,278), it would seem that 142 square miles have still to be dealt with. The 976 square miles (undergoing settlement) together with the 142 square miles (remaining to be dealt with) or 1,118 square miles in all, do not, however, correspond with the total figures of outstanding work which amount to 1,053 square miles as shown in the table in paragraph 14 above. The difference of 65 square miles may be ascribed to the fact that the 'Protected area' in which are included the 142 square miles referred to, and which was originally gazetted under section 34 of the Forest Act, in Kánara, in the year 1879 (when the Revenue Survey operations of the forests were not completed) does not represent accurate figures, but we have to accept these figures until the survey shows their inaccuracy or otherwise and consequently they appear in Form No. 46A, pending final settlement of the Kánara forests.

## (iii).—DEMARCATION.

### Ka'nara.

17. In the three divisions of Kánara, 409 miles of boundary-lines were cleared of after-growth, &c., by the Forest Department at a cost of Rs. 5,740, as detailed in the margin, and 15 miles of new demarcation-lines were also opened in the Western Division at a cost of Rs. 448.

| | No. of Miles. | Cost. Rs. |
|---|---|---|
| Northern Division, Kánara | ... 333 | 3,996 |
| Southern do. | ... 30 | 896 |
| Western do. | ... 46 | 848 |
| | 409 | 5,740 |

18. The work done by the Demarcation party under the Forest-Settlement-Officer, Kánara, is as shewn below:—

| Name of Táluka. | Number of villages. | Line marked out. | | Number of plates fixed. | | | Cost of fixing the plates. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Reserved. | Protected. | Total. | | |
| | | Miles. | Furlongs. | | | | Rs. | |
| Yellápur (Southern Division, Kánara). | 13 | 116 | 7 | 1,721 | 832 | 2,553 | 505 | |

19. The work done in Kánara, as detailed above, represents internal demarcation, such as lines separating one block from another and is, therefore, omitted from Form No. 48.

## Belgaum.

20. Eleven miles of boundary lines (10 in Belgaum and 1 in Khánápur) separating forest from non-forest lands were demarcated by the setting up of 973 stone-pillars with "R. F." letters carved on them, and the erection of 190 cairns, at a cost of Rs. 647. More work would have been done, but owing to famine funds allotted to this work were diverted to other purposes.

## Dha'rwa'r.

21. Nothing was done in this Division owing to the grant made for the work having been suspended on account of famine.

## Bija'pur.

22. The work of preparing stone-pillars to demarcate boundaries was undertaken during the year, with a view to provide suitable work for Waddárs, who, owing to the prevailing famine, were in great distress; and the result was that 10,805 stone-pillars, similar to those made in Belgaum, were prepared at a cost of Rs. 3,210. The Divisional Forest Officer reports that this work afforded means of livelihood to about 2,000 souls.

## Kola'ba.

23. A sum of Rs. 1,420 was sanctioned to demarcate forest boundaries with stone-cairns, but the money was subsequently transferred to Bijápur, where it was urgently needed for expenditure connected with the departmental collection of cassia bark and the preparation of stone-pillars.

24. The marks put up by the Revenue Survey between forest and non-forest lands being small cairns at irregular distances, do not serve their purpose effectively. It seems from the Divisional Forest Officer's report, that, on a reference made by him on the subject, to the Superintendent, Revenue Survey, the latter officer has directed that in future stone-cairns 5′ square at the base, 3′ square at the top and 4′ high should be set up, to demarcate such boundary lines. This is a step in the right direction.

## Ratna'giri.

25. The Collector reports that Rs. 39 were spent on the erection of 62 boundary cairns and on repairs to 49 existing boundary-marks in the Khed and Málván Ranges.

### (iv).—SURVEYS.

26. The following statement shows the work done by the topographical survey party and its cost, for the last two years, according to returns received from the Superintendent:—

| Year. | Triangulation. | | | | Traversing. | | | | Detail Survey. | | | | Total cost. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 8″ | | 4″ | | 8″ | | 4″ | | 8″ | | 4″ | | |
| | Area. | Cost. | Area. | Cost. | Area. | Cost. | Area. | Cost. | Area. | Cost. | Area. | Cost. | |
| | Sq m. | Rs. | Sq. m. | Rs. | Sq. m. | Rs. | Sq. m. | Rs. | Sq. m. | Rs. | Sq. m. | Rs. | Rs. |
| 1895-96 ... | ... | ... | 280 | 1,984 | ... | ... | 344 | 4,205 | ... | ... | 609 | 41,779 | 47,968 |
| 1896-97 ... | 194 | 816 | 880 | 6,859 | ... | ... | 234 | 2,613 | 15 | 1,633 | 348·5 | 27,763 | 39,684 |

27. The operations of the Survey Party were confined to the Kánara and Kolába Divisions of the Southern Circle. The detail work done in Kánara on the 4″ scale during the year was 348 square miles at an average cost of Rs. 80 per square mile as against Rs. 69 in the preceding year. In Kolába, 15 square miles were completed on the 8″ scale at a cost of Rs. 1,633 or Rs. 109 per square mile. There was thus a reduction of expenditure in the latter Division by Rs. 45 per square mile as compared with 1894-95 (no detail survey was done in the Division during 1895-96) and an increase by Rs. 11 per square mile in the former.

# CHAPTER II.

## MANAGEMENT OF STATE FORESTS.

### I.—REGULATION OF MANAGEMENT.

#### (*a*).—Working-Plans and their Control.

28. The Working-Plans Division of the Southern Circle was in the administrative charge of Mr. Copleston from 1st to 31st July 1896, and of Mr. Talbot from 1st August 1896 until 4th April 1897, and on the transfer of the latter officer to the Belgaum Division, the former was again put in charge.

29. Party I, under Mr. H. Mitra, Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests, was engaged in the organization of teak coppice in Dhárwár, and the following table shows the work done by the Party during the season of 1896-97 :—

| Area estimated. | Linear miles surveyed. | Stone cairns and earthen mounds erected. | Test trees felled. | Number of compartments formed. | Test area enumerated. | Area for which data have been collected for the preparation of working-plans. | Number of tracings prepared. | Total cost incurred. | Cost per acre. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | Rs. | Pies. |
| 99,335 ... | 55 | 1,305 | 30 | 327 | 23,997 | 99,335 | 7 | 6,063 | 11·7 |

30. It is not possible to compare the work done last season in Dhárwár by Party I, with that done by it in 1895-96 in Kánara, the forests of Dhárwár being so much easier than the heavy timber-forest of Kánara to work in.

31. The field work in Dhárwár consisted mainly in the counting of all the mature exploitable teak trees above 4″ in diameter at breast-height in the compartments of the forests of Dhárwár, Kalghatgi and Bankápur. Mr. Mitra, who was in charge of the plan, reports that the plan is on the same lines on which the Kolába schemes were prepared, with the additions that (1) all the coupes have been permanently laid on the ground, (2) that the mature teak trees in the first 10 years' coupes have been counted wholesale, and (3) that the standing stock in the remaining 30 years' coupes has been estimated by the 'test area' and 'eye-estimate' methods. The proposed plan does not, however, commend itself, but the *data* collected by Mr. Mitra will be availed of, as far as possible, for a suitable plan which is now being prepared by Mr. Woodrow, Divisional Forest Officer, Dhárwár.

32. The work done during the year by Party II, under Mr. Sátáráwála, consists of 41,962 acres of Yellápur, for which full *data* for the preparation of working-plans were collected, at a cost of Rs. 25,077 or 9 annas 7 pies per acre. This is most satisfactory as compared with the work done during 1895-96 which was fully 1,700 acres less than that in the year under report, and yet the cost per acre was higher by Re. 0-6-10. But the year 1895-96 cannot fairly be compared with the year 1896-97, as in the former, half of the work lay on the Arbail ghâts, excessively difficult country to work in, and this accounts for the increased cost and rate per acre for that year.

33. The decrease in cost and the increase in the quantity of work done in 1896-97, are ascribed by the Divisional Officer to the following four causes, *viz.* :—

*Firstly.*—The area gone over was flat and gently undulating and, therefore, easily accessible from all sides.